



## Nebraska Task Force 1 Urban Search & Rescue

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**DATE:** April 10, 2007

**TO:** Task Force Program Managers, National US&R Response System

**FROM:** Nebraska Task Force 1

**SUBJECT:** Extension of Application Deadline for Canine Search Specialist  
Certification Evaluation, Lincoln, NE

Nebraska Task Force 1 has extended the deadline to **April 20, 2007** for the FEMA K9 Certification Evaluation to be conducted on May 5 & 6, 2007 in Lincoln, NE. NE-TF1 has several openings available and offers this extension in order to fill these openings. NE-TF1 will conduct the CE on Saturday, May 5 and is considering a CP for Sunday May 6 in the event that the openings for the CE are not filled by April. See below for additional information.

### Application Process

The Canine Readiness Evaluation is open to any currently certified canine team, or to any canine team that has passed the Foundation Skills Assessment. Utilize the standard DHS-FEMA Application for Certification Evaluation form that is located on the Disasterdog.org website or on the Lincoln Fire & Rescue NE-TF1 website at <http://www.lincoln.ne.gov/city/fire/usar/k9eval/index.htm>

Applications for evaluation must include all required signatures verifying that the applicant meets certification evaluation criteria. Applications will be accepted for up to 12 teams to be evaluated per day and a total of 24 teams accepted. A stand by list will be established in the event that more than 24 teams apply for this evaluation. Deadline for applications is April 20, 2007. Applications should be forwarded to:

Lincoln Fire & Rescue Training Division  
NE-TF1 Urban Search & Rescue  
Attn: Jaimie Merryman  
5435 NW 1<sup>st</sup> Street  
Lincoln, NE 68521

If you have questions, contact Jaimie Merryman at:

Phone: 402-441-4966      FAX: 402-441-8798      E-mail: [jmerryman@lincoln.ne.gov](mailto:jmerryman@lincoln.ne.gov)

### Lodging

Lodging has been arranged for candidates and canines at the Sleep Inn, 3400 NW 12<sup>th</sup> Street, Lincoln NE 68521. The phone/fax numbers are the same and are 402-475-1550. A block of rooms has been secured at the rate of \$59.95 plus 12% tax per night per single room which includes continental breakfast starting at about 0600. You will need to make reservations by April 20<sup>th</sup>, 2007 to ensure the above rate. Mention the "Lincoln Fire & Rescue NETF1 Canine Evaluation" when making your reservations.

The Sleep Inn accepts major credit cards and is close to Lincoln Municipal Airport. Shuttle service can be arranged with prior notice to the Sleep Inn. Please inform them of your need for shuttle when you make your room reservation. A meeting room has been arranged at the Sleep Inn for evaluation briefings on Friday and Saturday evenings. A large grassy area is adjacent to the lodging property to exercise and relieve canines.

### Travel to Lincoln, Nebraska

Via Airline – Lincoln Municipal Airport (LNK) is served by United, American, and US Airways. Omaha's Eppley Airfield (OMA) offers a wider range of carriers and is about 60 miles from Lincoln.

Via Ground – Lincoln is situated along Interstate 80 in southeastern Nebraska. The Sleep Inn (lodging arranged for the evaluation) is located just off of Interstate 80 at Exit 399.

### Participant Info

All accepted applicants must provide their own personal protective equipment including approved task force uniform, helmet, leather gloves, safety boots, eye protection, and knee & elbow pads. Evaluation candidates who do not have the appropriate personal protective equipment will not be allowed to participate in the evaluation process.

Candidates must provide their own transportation from the lodging location to the designated evaluation staging area. The staging area is approximately 25 miles from the lodging location. It is highly recommended that all participants secure ground transportation for their local travel. Local rental transportation can be secured at the Lincoln Municipal Airport (LNK) or Omaha Eppley Airfield (OMA). Major rental agencies are available at the airport locations including Avis, Alamo, Budget, Hertz, National, and Thrifty.

Participants will be required to attend the pre-evaluation & safety briefings on the evening prior to their evaluation in the conference room at the Sleep Inn and any additional briefings prior to or after their evaluation. Directions to the evaluation site will be provided at the pre-evaluation briefings. Also, visit the NE-TF1 Evaluation Website for additional information at:

<http://www.lincoln.ne.gov/city/fire/usar/k9eval/index.htm>